* Tobacco, the single most important risk factor for chronic diseases, has been addressed in India through a comprehensive legislation and various other interventions.

* Health promotion and advocacy efforts have been taken up along with Integrated NCD prevention programmes in various parts of India with focus on industrial populations.

* The Ministrty of Health and Family Welfare in collaboration with the WHO has initiated follow up action on the WHO Global Strategy on Diet, Physical Activity and Health which offers various avenues to increase vegetable and fruit consumption and increase physical activity.

Corruption in autonomous councils

370. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposes to investigate the affairs of autonomous councils under his Ministry after revelations of rampant corruption in these councils;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to make the working of these bodies more transparent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Complaints of corruption against autonomous councils are investigated in this Ministry as per relevant rules, provisions and wherever required, the same are referred to CBI.

Registration criteria for medical Practitioners

371. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of criteria fixed by Government for registration of medical practitioners in rural/ urban areas with the Indian Medical Council;